

LIAISON

BBC

22 November 1954 STAT

MEMORANDUM FOR: [REDACTED]

Foreign Liaison Control Officer, DD/I

SUBJECT : Materials and Services Received from the BBC Monitoring Service by FBID.

1. Under the terms of a reciprocal arrangement, the BBC Monitoring Service makes its entire product of raw monitored material available to FBIS for processing and presentation to the U.S. Government. This amounts to approximately 2½ million words or 500 hours of listening each day and a daily file of about 40,000 words from the material monitored. In addition, all BBC Monitoring Service publications required by CIA are given to the FBIS liaison group at Caversham, England for transmittal to Washington.
2. A very excellent working relationship has been built through the years with the result that FBIS may now call on the BBC Monitoring Service for special monitoring tasks, translation projects and other related assignments within the BBC MS capabilities. This is especially valuable in support of the FBIS propaganda analysis effort which frequently requires verbatim texts of material which might otherwise be handled in summary form.
3. Another aspect of the reciprocal arrangement is the provision of an exclusive radio teletype circuit from Cyprus to London by the BBC. It is understood that they pay approximately £ 25,000 a year to Cables and Wireless for this circuit.
4. At the specific request of FBIS, acting on behalf of the IAC consumers, the BBC established a small monitoring operation in the British Embassy in Stockholm for coverage of the Baltic States and a few West Soviet regional transmitters. To be sure, the product of this operation is useful to the British but it is significant that it was undertaken only after request by FBIS.

STAT

[REDACTED]  
Chief, Foreign Broadcast  
Information Division

AMW:jmb

0 & 1 - Addse

1 - OO

1 - AMW, 1 - Exec Files, 1 - [REDACTED]

STAT

CONFIDENTIAL

Caversham Park  
18 November 1954

Mr. John F. Campbell  
Head, BBC Monitoring Service  
Caversham Park

Dear John:

My attention has been drawn to what appears to be a rather serious error which occurred in the translation of a passage in the Soviet note on the plane attack on an American craft off Japan, carried on Moscow Home Service on 8 November at 1930. The passage in question is the concluding phrase in the penultimate paragraph, which reads as translated: "by a completely unjustified gesture."

On 10 November, a Washington editor pointed out to us that the text as transmitted differed from a U. S. press version. A check was immediately made by the editor on duty through the Senior Assistant. Unfortunately, the matter was referred to the very Monitor who had originally produced the text. This Monitor confirmed the translation as first submitted, adding only that the word "gesture" should have been in the plural. It chanced that another member of our staff made a later investigation through another Senior Assistant. This man re-listened, heard a different Russian word and produced a totally different translation of this phrase, making it read: "by a needless loss of life." I do not know whether this corresponds with the wording in the U. S. press report, but I have been told it is the correct rendering.

I believe [ ] would like me to give you this brief report of the circumstances as we see them in the light of conversations with you when he was here.

STAT

Sincerely,

[ ]  
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cc Chief, FBIS ✓

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<b>19 November 1954</b> DATE		
TO: <b>Chief, FBIS</b>		
BUILDING	ROOM NO	
REMARKS:  <b>Ref. <del>LA</del> 371 of 18 November</b>		
FROM:		
BUILDING	ROOM NO.	EXTENSION

UNCLASSIFIED CONFIDENTIAL SECRET  
(SENDER WILL CIRCLE CLASSIFICATION TOP AND BOTTOM)

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP

TO	INITIALS	DATE
1	<i>[Signature]</i>	24 Nov.
2	<i>[Signature]</i>	
3	<i>Adm files Jerry</i>	
4		
5		
FROM	INITIALS	DATE
1		11/24
2		
3		

☐ APPROVAL    ☐ INFORMATION    ☐ SIGNATURE  
☐ ACTION    ☐ DIRECT REPLY    ☐ RETURN  
☐ COMMENT    ☐ PREPARATION OF REPLY    ☐ DISPATCH  
☐ CONCURRENCE    ☐ RECOMMENDATION    ☐ FILE

Remarks: *Way is very smooth.*

SECRET CONFIDENTIAL UNCLASSIFIED

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